

Message Text

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41

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 AID-01 NSC-06 /026 W

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P 161616Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6477

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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FOR IEU, ICS/E; STATE FOR EUR/SOV; P&C/LENINGRAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP OEXC UR

SUBJECT: CODEL BARBER CONABLE

1. REPRESENTATIVE BARBER B. CONABLE (R, NY) AND MRS.

CONABLE VISITED MOSCOW AND KIEV JULY 12-15 TO REPRESENT THE
USG AT THE OPENING OF THE AGENCY'S PHOTOGRAPHY USA EX-
HIBIT.

2. IN MOSCOW, CONGRESSMAN CONABLE MET JULY 13 WITH DEPUTY
MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE MANZHULO AND CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE
COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY GVISHIANI TO DISCUSS
ISSUES OF BILATERAL TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HE ALSO
ENGAGED IN INFORMAL AND CANDID TWO-HOUR DISCUSSION OF
POLITICAL ISSUES WITH USA INSTITUTE DIRECTOR ARBATOV AND
WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT LUNCHEON HOSTED BY CHARGE MATLOCK.

3. CODEL'S SCHEDULE IN KIEV WAS LARGELY CEREMONIAL, WITH
CALLS ON UKRAINIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SHEVEL' AND KIEV
MAYOR GUSEV, VISIT TO WORLD WAR TWO MUSEUM, AND SEVERAL
SOCIAL EVENTS. THE CONGRESSMAN DELIVERED THE MAIN SPEECH
AT THE EXHIBIT OPENING ON JULY 14 AND WAS PRESENTED
WITH SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL BY USSR CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AT RECEPTION FOLLOWING MORNING.

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4. MRS. CONABLE ALSO PURSUED ACTIVE PROGRAM, MEETING

WITH OFFICIALS OF SOVIET WOMEN'S COMMITTEE AND VISITING MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY JULY 13 AND WHILE IN KIEV CALLING ON UKRAINIAN GOVERNMENT MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR PRIMARY, SECONDARY, AND HIGHER EDUCATION.

5. EMBASSY EXTREMELY PLEASE WITH VISIT OF BOTH CONABLES. THE CONGRESSMAN'S STATURE IN THE HOUSE, HIS BROAD KNOWLEDGE, ELOQUENCE AND INFORMAL MANNER ALL COMBINED TO CREATE VERY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON SOVIET HOSTS. SIMILARLY, MRS. CONABLE WAS MOST QUALIFIED IN HER OWN RIGHT IN EDUCATIONAL FIELD AND HER PRESENCE BOTH ENHANCED OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF VISIT AND BROADENED EMBASSY CONTACTS.

6. EMBASSY CANNOT STRESS TOO STRONGLY THE VALUE OF VISITS BY SUCH DISTINGUISHED GOVERNMENTAL FIGURES AS CONGRESSMAN CONABLE, OR SENATOR BROOKE, CONGRESSMAN STEIGER AND USIA DEPUTY DIRECTOR KOPP DURING PAST VISIT, IN ENHANCING STATURE OF EXHIBITS PROGRAM AND IN CONTRIBUTING TO MISSION'S OVERALL OBJECTIVES. MFA, USA INSTITUTE AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL OR QUASI-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO HIGH-LEVEL NATURE OF RECENT VIP VISITORS CONNECTED WITH EXHIBITS AND HAVE COMMUNICATED TO US THEIR PLEASURE AND SATISFACTION WITH THIS TREND. SOVIET COOPERATION IN PREPARING USEFUL WORKING CALLS AND ON OTHER ASPECTS OF PROGRAMS FOR SUCH VIPS HAS BEEN READILY FORTHCOMING AND HELPFUL.

7. EMBASSY WISHES TO COMMEND AGENCY FOR CAREFUL ATTENTION TO APPROPRIATENESS AND CALIBER OF PERSONS SELECTED TO REPRESENT USG AND AGENCY AT RECENT EXHIBIT OPENINGS, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON VISIT OF CODE CONABLE. WE ARE CONFIDENT AGENCY WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE THIS FINE JUDGMENT IN SELECTION OF FUTURE VIPS. STOESEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW11286
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760275-0330
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760751/aaaabscm.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL BARBER CONABLE
TAGS: OVIP, OEXC, UR, (CONABLE, BARBER)
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006